

# Bestselling Author to Speak at Library

AUTHOR

By MORAG MACLACHLAN

A bestselling author with local ties is scheduled to speak about her latest book at the Duxbury Free Library.

Anita Shreve, author of the New York Times bestseller *Light on Snow*, will read from her new work of fiction *A Wedding in December* as well as sign copies of the book.

The book centers on a reunion of seven former schoolmates as they attend the wedding of one of their friends at an inn in the Berkshires of Massachusetts. The group hasn't seen one another in over 20 years.

"The book is about choices and second chances," Shreve said. "It's also about parallel lives."



Anita Shreve will read from her new novel *A Wedding in December* on Tuesday, Oct. 25 at the Duxbury Free Library.

"But I was trying to get back to fiction the entire time I was a journalist," Shreve said.

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**"Don't give up, and recognize that 95 percent of fiction writing is revision. Serious writers understand that a great deal of time is spent rewriting, rewriting rewriting."**

**—Anita Shreve**

Shreve is no stranger to Duxbury. Her father, Richard Shreve, used to live on Powder Point. She's also spoken at the library in the past.

This is Shreve's twelfth work of fiction. She indulged in her passion for writing while teaching high school. Shreve said she would write short stories and eventually left teaching to pursue writing full time. However, she quickly found it hard to earn a living and decided to try her hand at journalism.

As a reporter, Shreve traveled to Kenya. She worked in the African country for three years. Her articles appeared in *Quest*, *US*, and *Newsweek*. She wrote two works of non-fiction *Remaking Motherhood: How Working Mothers are Shaping Our Children's Future* in 1987 and *Women Together, Women Alone: The Legacy of the Consciousness-Raising Movement* in 1989.

Her dedication paid off. Shreve released her first novel, *Eden Close* in 1989. After the book was published, Shreve traded in journalism for fiction writing permanently. Shreve advises aspiring writers to stick with the craft.

"Don't give up," she said. "And recognize that 95 percent of fiction writing is revision. Serious writers understand that a great deal of time is spent rewriting, rewriting rewriting."

Shreve said she is already working on her next novel, although she wouldn't reveal any details.

"I never talk about what I'm working on," she said.

Shreve will speak at the library on Tuesday, Oct. 25 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. in the Merry Room. Free tickets for the event are available at Westwinds Bookshop or at the circulation desk of the library.